Application No. 10/797,382
Amendment Accompanying RCE dated March 20, 2009
Response to Final Office Action of December 23, 2008

Docket No.: 20811/0204770-US0

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims are allowable and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3, 5 and 7-17 are pending. Claim 2 was canceled by prior amendment without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. Claims 4-6 have now been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Claims 1, 16 and 17 have now been amended. No new matter has been added.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and § 103

Claims 1, 3-4, 7-11 and 14-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,185,530 to Ittycheriah et al. ("Ittycheriah"). Claims 5-6 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ittycheriah in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,049,594 to Furman et al. ("Furman"). Claims 12-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ittycheriah in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,363,348 to Besling et al. ("Besling"). Claims 4-6 have been canceled, thus, rendering the rejections of claims 4-6 moot.

Ittycheriah describes a method and apparatus that determines potential acoustic confusion between at least on new word and at least a portion of existing words of a vocabulary speech recognition system. *See* Ittycheriah, Abstract. Ittycheriah describes vocabulary expansion using a vocabulary expansion facility 20. A speech recognition system 10 includes a speech utterance pre-processor 12 operatively coupled via an acoustic front-end 14 to a speech recognition engine 16. *See* Ittycheriah, column 3, lines 35-43.

The Final Office Action states that Ittycheriah describes providing vocabulary data via a telecommunication network. Final Office Action, Detailed Action, page 4. Applicants respectfully submit that Ittycheriah merely describes that "generalized speech recognition systems such as the commercially available large vocabulary IBM VIaVoice or ViaVoice Gold systems may be adapted" to perform vocabulary expansion in accordance with Ittycheriah's described system.

Ittycheriah, column 3, lines 47-51. It is respectfully submitted that Ittycheriah nowhere teaches providing vocabulary data via a telecommunication network, as recited.

The Final Office Action states that Furman describes providing vocabulary data in a streaming mode. Applicants respectfully submit that Furman does not describe streaming media received via a telecommunication network. Furman, column 9, lines 48-60, describes that a customer's response to a request is passed to a speech training processor 95 that uses phoneme-based speech recognition to determine a sequence of phoneme indices that identify the individual phonemes in the sequence. The sequence is passed to a database processor 110 for association with a phone number for the customer. These stored sequences are then used by a voice dialing system to recognize names spoken by the customer, so that voice dialing can be accomplished. Furman, column 9, lines 48-60.

Independent claim 1 of the present application has now been amended so as to recite "providing the audio module with vocabulary data in a streaming mode from a telecommunication network." Independent claim 16 has now been amended so as to recite a "a computer-based audio module including a speech synthesis unit configured to receive speech data in a streaming mode from a telecommunication network." Support for this amendment can be found in the Specification at, for example, ¶ 0022 and original claims 4 and 6, which have now been canceled. It is respectfully submitted that neither Ittycheriah nor Furman, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests providing speech data in a streaming mode from a telecommunication network, as recited in claims 1 and 16. In contrast, Ittycheriah merely describes that generalized commercially available speech recognition systems can be adapted to perform vocabulary expansion. *See* Ittycheriah, column 3, lines 47-51. Furman merely describes that speech a training processor uses phoneme-based speech recognition to determine a sequence of phoneme indices that are stored and then used by a voice dialing system to recognize names spoken by the customer, so that voice dialing can be accomplished. Furman, column 9, lines 48-60. Nor does Besling teach or suggest the above-recited features missing from Ittycheriah and Furman.

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Because each of Ittycheriah, Furman and Besling fails to teach or suggest the above-recited features of independent claims 1 and 16, none of these references can anticipate, nor could any combination of them, to the extent proper, render obvious, independent claims 1 and 16, or any of their respective dependent claims 3, 7-15 and 17.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the respective rejections of claims 1, 3 and 6-17 under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 based on Ittycheriah, Furman, and Besling is respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that remaining claims 1, 3 and 7-17 are in condition for allowance and it is respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered and that all pending claims be allowed and the case passed to issue.

If there are any other issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any unpaid fees deemed required in connection with this submission, including any additional filing or application processing fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or 1.17, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 04-0100.

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Respectfully submitted,

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